

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR
September 22, 2000

SITE ASSESSMENT GRANTS AWARDED

Forty-one local units of government will receive grants totaling \$1,015,000 to conduct environmental assessments of contaminated property through the Brownfield Site Assessment Grant Program. The grants provide funds for site assessment and other preliminary activities at abandoned, idle or underused commercial or industrial properties where redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived contamination. The local governments will carry out activities such as tank removals, assessments, demolition and other non-cleanup activities at specific properties in their communities. Site assessment grants have been awarded to Baraboo, Chippewa Falls, Columbus, Crandon, the DeForest Redevelopment Authority, Douglas Co., Fond du Lac Co., Town of Geneva, Little Chute, the Milwaukee Redevelopment Authority (multiple grants), Outagamie Co., Platteville (multiple grants), Seymour, the Sheboygan Redevelopment Authority (multiple grants) and Whitefish Bay. Additional local governments will receive grants if they gain legal access to the specified properties within 90 days. Those governments are Barron Co., Clayton, Cudahy, De Pere, Delavan, Edgerton, Fredonia, Greenfield, Iowa Co., Marshfield, Town of Mountain, Town of Shields and Superior. A full listing of the grant amounts is on DNR's web site at:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/on/ON000919.htm#art8>

The next grant cycle is for large grants; applications with a request of more than \$30,000. The deadline to apply for those grants is Nov. 1, 2000. Applicants may be counties, cities, villages, towns, tribes, housing, community development and redevelopment authorities. For more information about grant applications please contact Valarie Thomas at 608-267-7153

ELECTRONIC FILE SUBMITTAL PILOT PROJECT

A group of environmental consultants who submit work to DNR have joined with selected RR Program staff in a pilot project for submitting their work in an electronic format. This project will make better use of technology to reduce the costs of preparation, shipping, and storage of documents. Consultants in the project are using Adobe Acrobat software to convert documents into a portable document format file (pdf) that can be submitted on cd. We will also review submitting documents as email attachments at a later time. Right now, however, consultants need to include a paper version of the original signature page and any applicable fee with the disk. See "What's New?" on our web site for the list of participating consultants, participating staff, and the procedures for electronic submittals.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/index.htm>

WHERE ARE YOU MAILING THOSE REPORTS AND CLOSURE REQUESTS?

Environmental consultants must remember to mail site investigation reports (SIRs) for discharges from petroleum tank sites to the appropriate agency, DNR or Commerce. This is required by joint agency rules ss. Comm 46 and NR 746.08(2). Only reports where a high risk factor exists, or where petroleum is co-mingled with non-petroleum contamination, should be mailed to DNR. All other SIRs are to be submitted directly to Commerce, with a copy of the cover letter to DNR so that we can transfer any previous file information to Commerce. High risk factors include 1) confirmed contamination in a water

supply well above an NR 140 preventive action limit, 2) confirmed petroleum product with a thickness of .01 feet or more, 3) groundwater contamination above an NR 140 enforcement standard within 1000 feet of a public well, 4) groundwater contamination above an NR 140 enforcement standard within 100 feet of a private water supply well, and 5) groundwater contamination above an NR 140 enforcement standard in fractured bedrock. Site risk classification is a one-time event. The site retains that classification unless the state determines that an error was made in the original classification. When submitting a case closure request for a site that has, or once had, high risk factors, the closure request should discuss how the risk factors were addressed in the site remediation. DNR may not approve a case closure request that lacks a clear response to the risk factors defined in statute, even though a case closure fee has been paid.

DNR APPROVAL OF LANDSPREADING APPLICATIONS

Wis. Administrative Code NR 718.09(8) governs single-application landspreading of contaminated soil as a treatment technology. There are three basic steps in the landspreading process: 1) approval of the landspreading location, 2) identification of the site from which the soil originated, and 3) demonstration that remediation at the landspreading location is complete. Approval of single-application landspreading is actually an exemption from the solid waste requirements of ch. 289, Stats., and chs. NR 500 to 536. Because landspreading site approvals are exemptions from the rules and statutes that govern waste treatment and disposal, only DNR can grant approval of landspreading sites under NR 718. This is true even if a LUST site where the soil originated is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce. However, no DNR approvals are needed for steps after approval of the landspreading location if the soil originated from a site under Commerce jurisdiction. Determination that remedial action is complete at the LUST site and at the landspreading location will be done by Commerce for those sites. Consultants and responsible parties must submit landspreading site approval requests and fees to the appropriate DNR regional office. Once a landspreading location has been approved by DNR and there is a responsible party who wishes to use that location, the consultant should notify DNR (and Commerce if the originating site is under Commerce's jurisdiction) of the intent to use that location for landspreading. Sites where the soil originated can not be granted final closure until the remedial action at the landspreading location is completed.

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